Trade agreement with Iran

†4060. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India-Iran entered into a trade-agreement in June, 2005 and Iran had to supply natural gas for the next 25 years thereunder;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and annual quantum of gas required to be supplied under the said agreement and at what price; and

(c) whether Iran has recently decided not to supply the gas at fixed price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) A Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) for the purchase of 5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of LNG was signed between Gail (India) Limited (GAIL)/Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)/Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and National Iranian Gas Export Company (NIGEC), on 13th June, 2005 in Tehran. The contract period is 25 years, beginning from the last quarter of 2009. The pricing of LNG has been negotiated on commercial considerations and is linked to Brent crude prices with floor and ceiling.

Simultaneously the parties also signed a side letter to the LNG SPA on 13th June, 2005 as per which NIGEC desired to obtain the approval of their parent company, National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), for the SPA to become effective.

It is understood that the Iranian internal procedures required to be completed for the approval of the SPA have not yet been finalized.

During recent visit fo the Deputy Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Petroleum, Islamic Republic of Iran to New Delhi

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on 1-2 May, 2006, he informed that matter is pending with their Higher Economic Council.

LPG connections in Punjab

4061. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the waiting list and clearance position of LPG connections in the country during the past two years till date State-wise particularly State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Selection Board is set up/proposed to be set up for dealership of LPG and petrol outlets; and

(d) if so, the main activities of the Selection Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of Statewise waiting list pertaining to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) as on 1.4.2005, 1.4.2006 and 1.5.2006 are at Statement I (*See* below). The Statewise number of connections released by OMCs during the last two years upto 1.5.2006 are at Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) There is no permanent Selection Board for selection of distributorships/dealerships of LPG and petrol outlets. Based on the broad parameters advised by the Government to OMCs, the latter have framed their guidelines for the selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products, and have been making selections in terms of these guidelines. These guidelines provide for a detailed procedure to be followed by the OMCs in selecting dealers/distributors. The procedure includes selection committees constituted by the OMCs concerned as and when selections are required to be carried out.